

BRONYCAN

OFFICIAL GUIDE TO THE 2014 MLP FAN CONVENTION



**August 22-24, Executive Airport Plaza Hotel &
Conference Centre - Richmond, B.C.**



Gifts You Will Want For Yourself



★ We're at BronyCAN! Come visit our booth ★

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A message from our con-chair!

Welcome, pony folk!

Thank you for braving the dangers of B.C. to come and visit with us here at BronyCAN. Despite the nearby changeling presence, we hope that all our attendees arrive safely, and that the force of our friendship will keep us protected during the convention weekend.



It's been a fun road from our first convention to our second, with many new challenges to overcome. Fortunately I've been blessed with a dedicated group of extremely silly people to call my staff, and their effort and skill continue to amaze me. It is to them, and to the booming local community, that BronyCAN is owed. One supports the other, and the event prospers to become what is hopefully the daftest, most enjoyable convention it could possibly be. We simply couldn't do this without your help.



We've done our best to up the ante this year: we've added an extra day of events, and broadened both the range of events we offer, as well as the number and types of guests we've invited to share their knowledge. We've also added a Nerf War and a CCG tournament for some friendly competition, so make sure you're prepared to help defend against the changeling horde!

For my part, I want to personally thank all of our staff, panelists, musicians and special guests for their valuable contributions. I should also thank my better half, the lovely Requiem, for keeping me sane when things have gotten stressful. I hope you have a fantastic time at BronyCAN 2014, and that you'll come back to share in the fun again next year.

Be excellent to each other.

Silver Nicktail

Volunteer Chairman, BronyCAN 2014

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CODE OF CONDUCT

Some quid pro quos you should consider while you're cavorting through the Executive. We're all here to enjoy ourselves, so be sure to follow these rules carefully.

Introduction

Our foremost goal at BronyCAN is to ensure that all attendees have a pleasant and memorable time at our convention. The following policies are set in place by BronyCAN staff to ensure that every individual attendee will enjoy their time at our convention, so please keep these in mind for a fun and safe experience. As a friendly reminder, please remember the 6-2-1 rule: 6 hours of sleep, 2 full meals, and 1 shower per day at an absolute minimum to ensure you and everyone else have a great time!

General Rating

BronyCAN is, for all intents and purposes, intended for attendees of all ages and has adopted a 'PG' rating as such. Much like the show was intended for young children and their parents, BronyCAN should provide a similar environment for its attendees. This means that attendees should refrain from strong language, displays of violence, inappropriate dress, and depictions of illegal or age-inappropriate behaviors, both real and fictional in all public areas of the convention. We want the youngsters and their guardians attending BronyCAN to enjoy their experience at our convention without the worry of running into something inappropriate.

Lost and Found

All abandoned items should be brought to the nearest convention volunteer, which will then be stored in the convention operations room during the weekend. BronyCAN will store and safeguard all lost items until August 24th, after which these items will be disposed of in a manner that BronyCAN deems acceptable.

Alcohol and Prohibited Substances

All alcoholic beverages are prohibited in conven-

tion spaces, and anyone who appears intoxicated or under the influence of any substance will not be allowed into convention areas. Please be aware that the drinking age in British Columbia is 19, and that minors that illegally consume or come into possession of alcohol may receive criminal charges, in addition to the party that provided the alcohol.

There is a strict zero-tolerance policy on serving alcohol to minors in violation of the law, and any violations of this will result in BronyCAN staff immediately removing involved individuals from convention space and revoking their pass. No refunds will be issued for attendees removed from the convention for violating BronyCAN policies, hotel policies, or laws. BronyCAN staff will also file a report to the proper authorities for any violations of this law.

Any narcotic or hallucinogenic substances and paraphernalia are also strictly prohibited for any reason in convention space, and their possession or use will result in similar action.

Smoking

Please follow all hotel policies and local laws regarding smoking in the convention space and your hotel room. Within the City of Vancouver, smoking is not permitted by law in all indoor public spaces, including public transit, shopping malls, restaurants, pubs, nightclubs and casinos. Smoking is not permitted within six metres of an entryway, openable window or air intake of a building. Signage will be posted to indicate the applicable smoking restrictions. Please smoke in designated areas only.

Hotel Policies

As good guests, all attendees to BronyCAN should follow hotel policies in public spaces and hotel

rooms alike. Even if you are staying at a different hotel, please follow the same rules as a paying guest if you are in a hotel space that belongs to the Executive Airport Plaza Hotel. Noise policies are also in place, so if a hotel staffer or BronyCAN volunteer asks you to lower the volume or close the door to your room, please do so or you may be asked to surrender your badge. No refunds will be issued for attendees removed from the convention for violating BronyCAN policies, hotel policies, or laws.

Media Coverage and Press

BronyCAN welcomes all members of the press that wish to attend and cover our convention. All members of the press who wish to cover BronyCAN must check in with Registration, with credentials to verify your status, in order to receive a press pass.

BronyCAN reserves the right to grant or deny approval to for all photography and video/audio recording requests, and permissions may be retracted at any time. For more information, please contact our Media head at [**media@bronycan.ca**](mailto:media@bronycan.ca).

Minors

BronyCAN is intended for attendees of all ages, but we require that all children under the age of 13 be accompanied by a parent or designated guardian over the age of 18. All designated guardians over the age of 18 must have purchased a badge for BronyCAN, and as children under the age of 13 receive the Youth pass for free, children between the age of 14-17 must buy a standard pass.

Please be aware that BronyCAN and associated parties are not responsible for supervision of minors, and that by registering to attend this convention, all parties understand and agree to this limitation.

Pets and Service Animals

In following with the hotel policy, service animals are allowed for attendees that require them. BronyCAN asks that you leave your pets at home or in the care of someone that you can trust while you are enjoying the convention.

Photography and Video Recording

Cameras and video recording are welcome at BronyCAN and are allowed at most panels and spaces through the convention. There are several points of common courtesy to be aware of when taking pictures however. When taking pictures in the public convention spaces, such as hallways and lobby, please make sure you are not blocking other attendee's movement or impeding crowd traffic if there happens to be many attendees in one space.

While in the vendor's hall, please do not take pictures or record any of the vendor's items unless you have their express permission. Finally, be respectful of anyone in the convention who does not wish to be photographed or recorded on video. Most guests, whether they are attendees in cosplay or guests of honor, would prefer to be asked if photos or video recordings are taken.

BronyCAN staff reserve the right to prohibit photography, recording, and other forms of capture during certain events and in certain spaces. No refunds will be issued for attendees removed from the convention for violating BronyCAN policies, hotel policies, or laws.

Public Behavior

Please be aware of your behavior in any of the convention spaces. BronyCAN expressly prohibits disruptive and unsafe behavior, including, but not limited to: verbal and physical harassment towards others, acts that could be dangerous to others or property, sexual misconduct, engaging in illegal activities, and possession of any item that is defined as a weapon.

Violations will be handled on a case by case basis, and a BronyCAN volunteer will often ask attendees exhibiting any such behavior to refrain. Other violations by their very nature will result in immediate and permanent expulsion from BronyCAN, and BronyCAN volunteers will contact the appropriate authorities if necessary. No refunds will be issued for attendees removed from the convention for violating BronyCAN policies, hotel policies, or laws.

Please do not sleep in the convention spaces. All attendees should return to their rooms or accommodations to sleep, as convention and public hotel

spaces are not authorized for overnight sleeping.

Weapons and Props

Cosplayers at conventions often have a number of accessories and props that go with their chosen costume. Some of these items may resemble a weapon however, and for the safety and comfort of all attendees, BronyCAN has strict guidelines on weapons and costume props.

Possession of any weapon in violation of applicable law is expressly prohibited. Functional projectile weapons (firearms), will not be allowed, even if the owner has a weapon permit or concealed carry permit. Any attendee found in possession of a weapon will be subject to action including and up to immediate expulsion from the convention and alerting the appropriate authorities.

All items that resemble weapons must be peace-bonded, which means that a very visible lock has been placed on the weapon to make it clear it will not be used for violent means. A piece of cloth, a brightly colored zip tie, or something similarly visible over the trigger of gun-like prop, or holding a blade in its sheath would be an example of peace-bonding. Please peace-bond any items that may resemble weapons before arriving at BronyCAN, or contact a BronyCAN volunteer to have your props peace-bonded. BronyCAN reserves the right to have convention volunteers require peace-bonding or the removal of a weapon at their discretion.

No functioning or previously functioning project weapons are allowed, including but not limited to water guns, silly string guns, air soft or pellet guns. Nerf guns are only acceptable in the official Nerf War, pending inspection. Gun replicas and projectile weapon replicas should never be pointed at anyone at any time. Replica pistols must remain holstered, and replica rifles should be slung in a manner that leaves them immobile at all times in the convention space.

All laser pointers are prohibited. There will be a laser show during the Saturday night concert, with trained staff taking all required safety precautions while handling and utilizing this equipment.

All bladed weapons must remain sheathed or cased at all times in the convention space. Play-acting with props and weapons is prohibited, as

props should never be waved around. No live steel props are allowed, which includes anything that resembles a sword, knife, or other bladed weapon that can take a sharp edge.

Policy Revision

BronyCAN policies are subject to change at any time the convention requires.

Additional Information

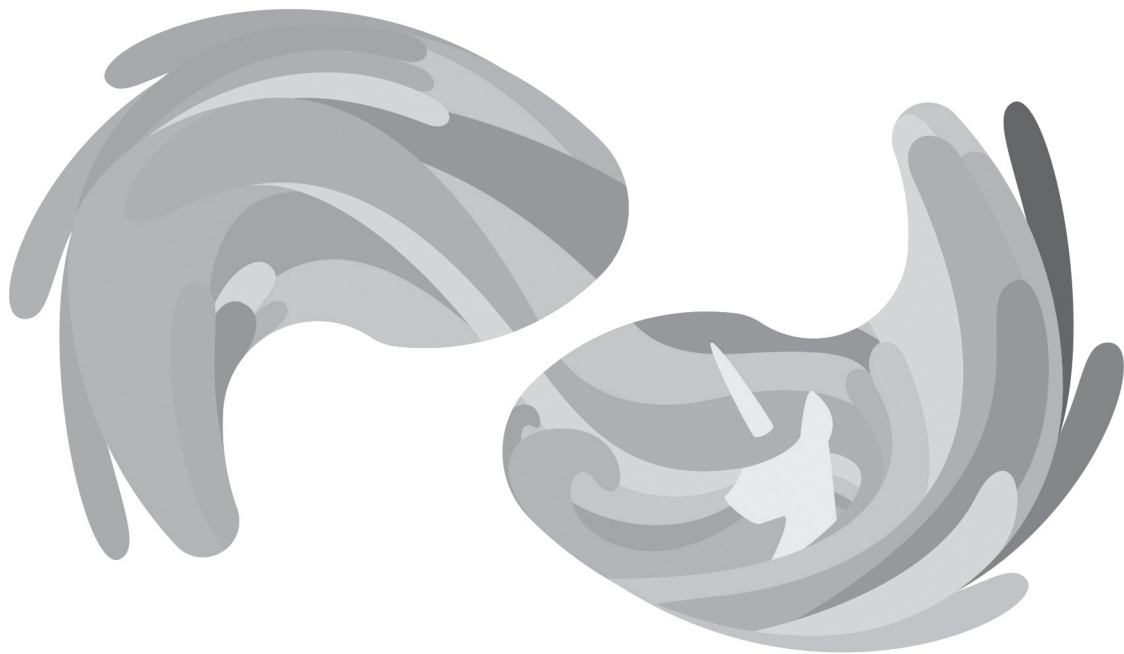
If there is a question that you have that our policies didn't cover, please ask a BronyCAN volunteer for additional information or clarification. Our volunteers and staff will strive to ensure that all attendees have a pleasant and safe convention, so please inform any volunteers if you feel that you or others are having a less-than-safe experience.

BronyCAn 2014

The Invasion Has Begun

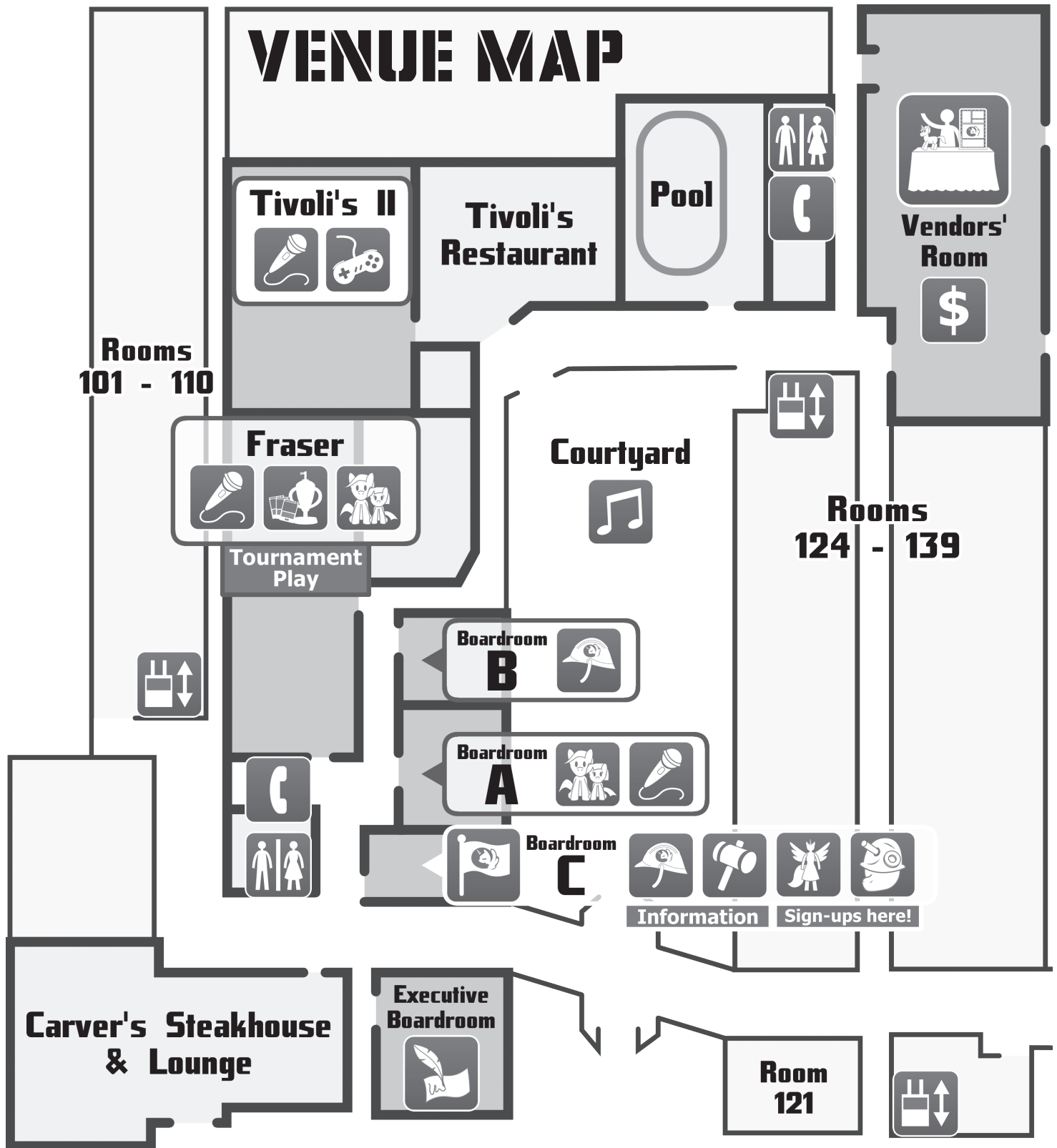


all pony. all together.



poniverse.net

VENUE MAP



Events and Functions



Panels



Music Events



CCG
Tournament



Auction



Kid's Events



Autographs



Cosplay
Contest



Nerf War



Card/Board Games



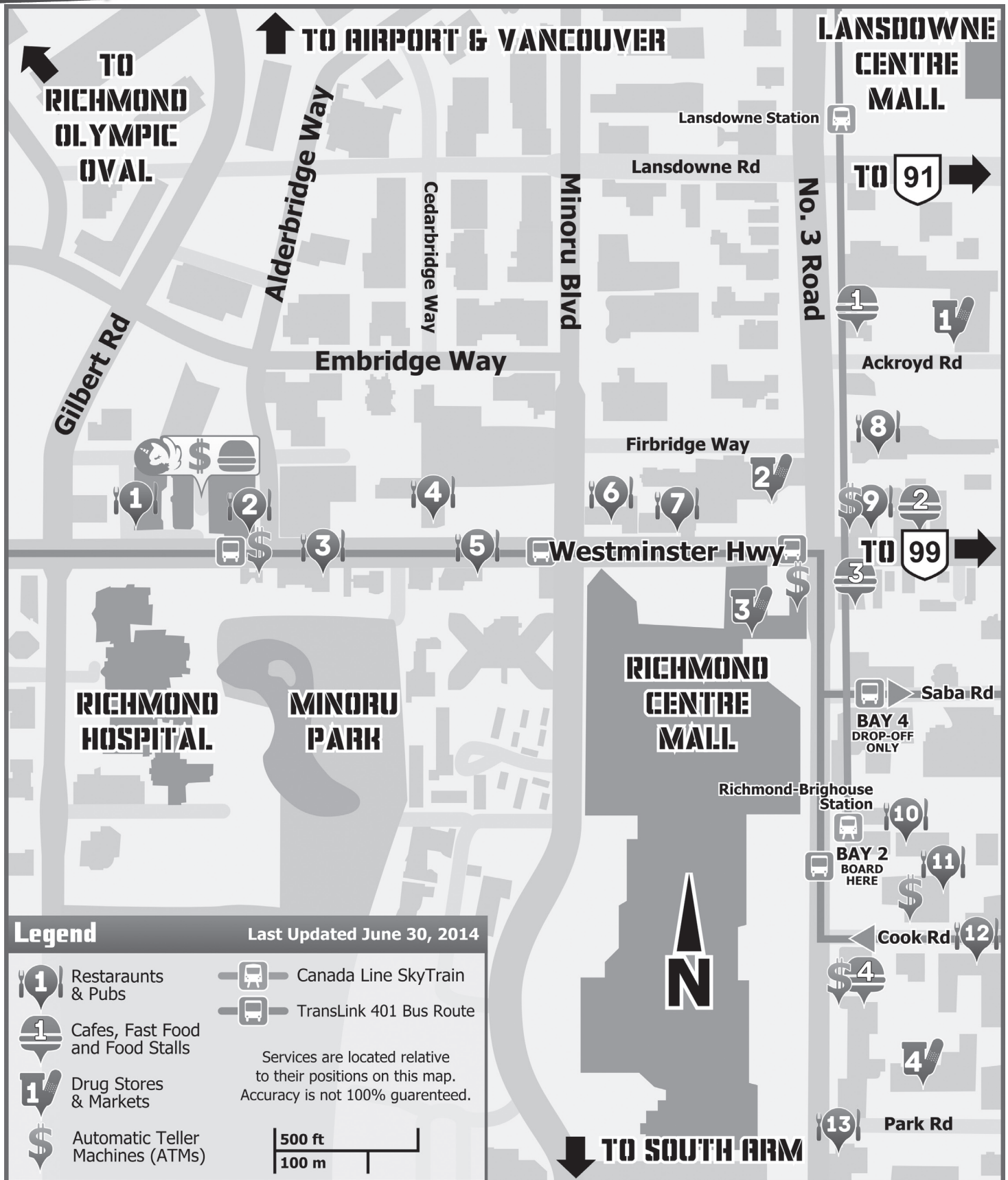
Video Games



**Interested in helping us out this weekend?
Ask about joining our staff in the Operations
room! Any level of experience is welcome!**

RICHMOND CITY CENTRE

Nearby shops and services for your convenience.



Restaurants and Pubs

1. Carver's Steakhouse and Lounge
2. Ceili's Pub
3. Mad Greek
4. Harold's Bistro and Bar
5. Thirsty Turtle's Bar and Grill
6. Mui Garden, Mad Greek
7. Shanghai River
8. Boston Pizza
9. Hml Seafood Restaurant
10. New Town Bakery and Restaurant, Shanghai House
11. Sakura's Sushi
12. Legends Pub
13. IHOP

Shopping Centres

1. Richmond Centre Mall - <http://www.richmondcentre.com>
 - Restaurants: *Chutneze, Pearl Castle, Tim Hortons, McDonald's, Shi-Art Chinese Cuisine, White Spot*
 - Food Court: *A&W, KFC, Quizno's, Vina, Umi, Koryo Korean BBQ, Goodah, Opa! of Greece, Edo Japan, Bourbon St. Grill, Thai Express, Kung Pao Wok, Jugo Juice, Curry Express, New York Fries, U-Grill*
2. Lansdowne Centre Mall - <http://lansdowne-centre.com>
 - Restaurants: *Mongolian Hot Pot, No. 9 Restaurant, Earl's Restaurant, Gingeri Chinese Cuisine, Kyung Bok Palace BBQ*
 - Food Court: *A&W, My Coffee, Curry Express, Fortune Wok, Freshslice Pizza, Grill King, Jimmy the Greek, KFC, Orange Julius, Port Seafood, R&H Chinese Food, Shogun, Subway, Taco Luis, Thai Way Express*

Fast Food/Cafes

1. Ichport Town Centre – *Ebisu, Starbucks Coffee, Dinesty Chinese, Neptune Seafood, Top Shanghai Cuisine, Daimaru Kaiten Sushi*
2. Minoru & Westminster – *Panago Pizza, Flo Tea Room*
3. No. 3 & Westminster – *Pizza Express, Shang Noodle*
4. No. 3 & Park – *Szechuan Delicious, Hot N Crisp Pizza & Wings, Hue Café, Seattle's Best Coffee, Jumbo Sushi*



OUR CHARITY

Reaching out to fellow Canadians in need...



Eversafe Ranch

Caring for families and animals in need.

ABOUT EVERS SAFE RANCH

In 2012, Eversafe Ranch opened a thrift store in the Cloverdale area of Surrey, BC. Through the store, we are able to better support the families in need by either providing the donated items straight to the families, or purchasing the requested items through the store's proceeds.

We currently provide furniture, household items, clothing, and community support such as stress-free and safe holiday dinners and fun to the people and families connected with us through: Atira Women's Resource Society, Surrey Association for Community Living, Metis Family Services, and Work BC, local churches and word of mouth (to name a few).

WHAT WE CURRENTLY NEED

- **To obtain a 22 seat bus** to safely transport the families that we help during our holiday dinners and events. Our Christmas dinner alone had over 90 people in attendance – this took four bus loads from borrowed buses.

- **We're also looking for volunteers!** We desperately need help in our thrift store in Surrey BC, as well as help moving furniture to the families transitioning from shelters.

A monthly wishlist is available on our website! Be sure to download it and see if you can help check off the items we need to keep going.

For more information, please visit our website: **www.eversaferranch.ca**

100% of the proceeds from our auction go towards Eversafe Ranch's new bus!
Be sure to join us in the Grand Ballroom! Keep your eye on our schedule!



WHAT IF THEY WIN?

What would happen to Canada's famous landmarks if Volucris succeed in her mission of invasion?

We asked the members of the deviantART group **#MLPFriendshipIsMagic** to give us their predictions. See more fantastic work at mlpfriendshipismagic.deviantart.com!



- 1 - Rideau Canal, from **Chirpi-Chi**
- 2 - Canada Place, from **Incomplete-Obession**
- 3 - Inuksuk Point, from **Graffegruam**

Congratulations to all three artists who took the top spots in our official art contest! And thanks to all who entered!

OUR DISTINGUISHED GUESTS

Roll out the red carpet! Sorry about the slime stains...

Voice Actors



Nicole Oliver - *Princess Celestia & Cheerilee*

Nicole Oliver has worked for over twenty years in the entertainment industry as an actor, producer, and director. Ms. Oliver has been nominated by her peers for several Leo Awards for her work on both the small and big screen and just recently won the UBCP/ACTRA award for Best Voice for her work in animation. She has provided her voice-over expertise to over 100 companies including American Express, Wireless Wave, Club House, and McDonalds, and she has voiced innumerable animation programs such as *Littlest Pet Shop*, *My Little Pony*, *Tom and Jerry*, *Strawberry Shortcake*, and the *Barbie* franchise.



Andrew Francis - *Shining Armor*

Andrew Francis is a working actor in the highly competitive film and television industry. He's been working steadily since he was a toddler. His credits include numerous feature films, including "Fakers", in which he was nominated for a Male Lead Actor Gemini Award in 2013. Andrew is also a very talented voice artist. He has voiced several well know animated shows. Most recently, Andrew has entered into the Production side of Film-making and is co-producing several films including "The Circle" and "Suburbia".



Sam Vincent - *Flim*

Sam was born and raised in Vancouver and has been working in the film and television industry as an actor and voice performer for over 25 years. One of his first animated series was performing the voice of AFC Blinky in *Bucky O'Hare and the Toad Wars*. He also provided the voice for the much beloved character Double D on the popular Cartoon Network series *Ed, Edd, n' Eddy*. His first introduction to the world of *My Little Pony* was playing the role of Flim, one half of the notorious Flim Flam brothers. "The Super Speedy Cider Squeezy 6000" song is one of Sam's favourite performances to date. He is currently working on several shows which include *Pac Man*, *Max Steel* and *Slugterra*. He has also started producing films and is in preproduction for a teen comedy entitled *Last Night in Suburbia*.



Richard Ian Cox - *Snails*

Richard Ian Cox has been acting in film and television since the late 1700's. Understandably, work was hard to come by in the early days before the invention of either medium. It wasn't until the release of the first talkies in 1927 that Richard's career started to show signs of life. Roles in *Ranma ½*, *Inuyasha*, *Botsmaster*, *Trouble Chocolate*, *First Gundam*, *Mega Man*, *Gundam Seed*, *Hamtaro*, *Gundam 00*, *Being Ian*, *X-Men Evolution*, *Will and Dewitt*, *Care Bears*, Disney XD's *Max Steel*, and of course, *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic* ... as well as a bunch of other stuff, has earned Richard a reputation as a guy who knows which end of a mic to speak into. Richard is excited to be attending BronyCAN and telling everyone about *Last Night in Suburbia*.

Show Staff



Jayson Thiessen - *Director, Co-Executive Producer, Animator*

Jayson Thiessen was raised in western Canada on a healthy cartoon diet of Looney Tunes, Disney and 80's Saturday morning shows. His love of the animated medium spawned a desperate desire to draw and create, filling numerous sketchbooks with silly cartoon ideas and characters. Ever since 1998, he has worked in the Vancouver animation industry starting as a classical animator, then transitioning to digital Flash animation and working his way up the ranks to become a Director. In 2009 he took on the role of Supervising Director for the latest incarnation of the Hasbro series, "My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic" and applied his complete love and attention towards the show, which went on to become a runaway cult sensation around the world. In 2012, Jayson directed the spinoff *My Little Pony* movie, "Equestria Girls" which debuted at the LA film festival in 2013. He was later elevated to Co-Executive Producer on the series and continues to direct the latest season.



'Big' Jim Miller - Co-Director

Big Jim Miller is a storyboard artist, cartoonist, director and improviser living in Vancouver, BC, Canada. He has worked primarily as a storyboard artist, most notably for 10 years at a.k.a. Cartoon Inc. on Cartoon Network's *Ed, Edd n' Eddy*, where he was a part of all 5 seasons, the 3 holiday specials and the tv movie. He has also done storyboard work on *Kid Vs. Kat*, Capcom's *Dead Rising 3* and the Hub's *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*. After starting on MLP, he has since moved on to storyboard supervising seasons 2 and 3 of that series, as well as the *Equestria Girls* direct-to-DVD movie. Season 4 of MLP saw Jim promoted to co-director, episodes of which are currently airing on the Hub Network. You can also see his work on the comic strip 'Mystery: Solved!' available bi-monthly in *Skeptical Inquirer* magazine.



Daniel Ingram - Composer, Songwriter

A multi-Emmy nominated and award-winning composer, Daniel is best known for his songs on the phenomenally successful TV series *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*. He is one of the most prolific and identifiable composers working in television today, with a credit list that spans hundreds of episodic scores and over 200 original songs. Daniel has been featured in Rolling Stone magazine and enjoys the unusual distinction of inspiring thousands of YouTube remixes and covers of his music by fans of all ages. His many television shows include *Littlest Pet Shop*, *Martha Speaks*, *Pound Puppies*, *Dr. Dimensionpants*, *Kate & Mim Mim*, and *Equestria Girls*.



Steffan Andrews - Composer, Orchestrator

An award-winning composer & orchestrator, Steffan has written over 2000 minutes of score for internationally-recognized television series watched by millions around the world. Steffan is best known for having orchestrated the majority of songs from *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic* including the Daytime Emmy-nominated "May The Best Pet Win" as well as composing the underscore and orchestrating songs for both musical episodes to date, including the Leo Award-winning "Magical Mystery Cure" and Weird Al Yankovic extravaganza "Pinkie Pride." He is regularly working on many projects, with credits including *Littlest Pet Shop*, *League of Super Evil*, *Voltron Force* & more.



Stephanie Mahoney - Layout/Posing Supervisor

Steph has been in the animation industry for 9 years. She's had the privilege to work on shows such as *Atomic Betty*, *Ruby Gloom*, *Kid vs. Kat*, *Pound Puppies* and of course *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*. She has been at DHX Media since 2008. When she heard about the possibility of working on MLP, she pestered Jayson until she was locked into animating on Season 1. On Seasons 2 and 3 she was in the Layout/Posing department. In Season 4 she went on to supervise Layout/Posing.

Steph has been an avid Con-goer and cosplayer for 14 years but this will be her first appearance as a guest.



Christopher Leinonen - Layout/Posing Supervisor

Christopher has been in the animation biz since 2007, and at DHX since 2008 (back when it was Studio B). He started on Season 1 of MLP as a Layout/Posing Artist, and was a Layout/Posing Supervisor on Seasons 2 and 4. Other shows he's worked on include *Kid vs Kat* and *Packages from Planet X*. When not ponying or engaging in armchair radicalism, he sometimes makes comics with the Cloudscape Comics Society (www.cloudscapecomics.com), a group of independent Vancouver comic artists. His work has been published in four of their annual anthologies.



Rebecca Dart - Art Director on Season 5

Rebecca Dart is a Vancouver artist that has been working in the local animation industry for 17 years. In the past she's worked on such shows as *Ned's Newt* and *Mission Hill*. She has worked on *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic* since season 2 and is the designer of such characters as Queen Chrysalis and her changelings, Princess Cadence, Shining Armor, Ahuizotl, the Power Ponies, Sunset Shimmer and many others. She also did character design for the first *Equestria Girls* movie. Rebecca is currently the art director on MLP:FiM season 5.



Nicole Gauss - Character Designer

Nicole has worked in the animation industry for almost 15 years and she was hired on *MLP: Friendship is Magic* as a character designer for season one. Nicole is also a character designer on *Littlest Pet Shop* and she has worked on *Atomic Betty*, *Braceface*, *Milo's Bug Quest*, and *Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*; she was also a clean-up artist on *Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas*.

We are very excited to have her attend our convention once again. Like last year, she will be selling art at her vendor table, so why not have your own character drawn by an official My Little Pony artist?



Kora Kosicka - Season 5 Character Designer

Kora is a children's media illustrator who primarily works in character and toy design; her background includes design work for Disney Canada, DHX Media, and Hasbro Studios. She is currently the character designer on Season 5, and her other MLP credits include character design for Season 3, and initial concept art for Equestria Girls. Kora is also the character designer for seasons 1-3 of LPS. Her favourite things include cookies, the BBC, and her rabbit, Colbert—one of these things would be her cutie mark, but probably not the BBC. Because how even?

Comic Book Guests



Georgia Ball - Comic writer

Georgia worked for several years as a Flash animator for IBM and the Cartoon Network, where she met and married fellow animator Scott Ball. They collaborated on a series of animated shorts and games and promoted them by launching a webcomic called "Scooter and Ferret" in 2004. While Georgia grew as a web developer, she also had to grow as a writer to keep the strip afloat. In 2010 an editor for Ape Entertainment contacted her and asked her to write for their new Strawberry Shortcake comic book series. Since then she's published stories for Kung Fu Panda, Fruit Ninja and My Little Pony for IDW. Her latest comic book series, Littlest Pet Shop, will be released in stores in May 2014.



Amy Mebberson - Comic artist

Amy Mebberson is an Australian comic artist and illustrator. Amy started her career as an inbetweener and assistant animator at Walt Disney Animation Australia, before moving to the USA and beginning a career in comics for Disney, Pixar and the Muppets at Boom! Studios. Amy currently draws *My Little Pony* comics for IDW publishing as well as her Disney Fine art with Acme Archives and other art projects for the Walt Disney Company and other licensors. Amy also writes and draws the internet Disney fan-comic 'Pocket Princesses'. Much of her portfolio and further information about Amy can be found at her website.

Amy will also have a table set up in the vendor's hall to sell her art and take sketch requests.

Community Guests



Brent Hodges - Director of 'A Brony Tale'

Brent Hodges started his directing career with CBC (Canadian Broadcasting Corporation), directing two seasons of R3TV for CBC Music. Brent has directed TV documentaries including Leo Nominated "Winning America" and "What Happen's Next" about Canadian singer Dan Mangan. Brent recently won a Canadian Screen Award for Best Non Fiction Online Content. Brent has also worked with National Geographic, National Film Board of Canada, Discovery Canada, and OLN Network and has done web video content for McDonalds, GAP, Samsung, TIME Magazine, and Uber. Brent runs his own company Hodgee Films which focuses on video content for agencies, tech start ups, travel documentaries, and filming live events around the world.

Learn more about our guests on our website: **bronycan.ca/guests**

Community Musicians



Bright Side



BronyMike



Donn Devore



Fen Pony



GeDM



HeyLasFas



Maestro Scherzo



MidnightMelody



NekoWolf



Razor Tongue



ScrachAttack



Skeleton Umbrella

CrescentScript

<http://crescentscript.tumblr.com/>

SUKI LEE



Executive Airport Plaza Hotel - Richmond, B.C.



EVENT LISTING

Note: This list is subject to change.

Please refer to your pocket program or follow us online for updates on upcoming events during the convention!

Friday, August 22, 2014

Meet and Greet Mixer

Hosted by Jay 'Regen' Weiland

New to the My Little Pony fandom? New to conventions? Or are you just looking to kill an hour and make a new friend? Well the meet and greet is a great way to get to know your fellow attendees as well as making a friend or two! Every ten minutes, the table will be swapped in to groups of four and each team will attempt to answer all the get to 'know you' questions before time's up!

Sponsor Sneak Preview

For those generous ponies who have purchased an Alicorn or Patron memberships, or have been a major sponsor in the past year, you will get a sneak peek at all the wares in our vendor's hall!

Kids Sing-A-Long

Hosted by Skeleton Umbrella

Sing along to your favorite My Little Pony songs! We ask that anyone attending must have a child under the age of 12 to enter the event.

Pony Poems

Hosted by Scott Richardson

After having mastered the fields of fan fiction, comics, dubstep and even plushies, it's about time Bronies took a shot at poetry. Movie haikuist and easy going brony Random Richards will be reading a series of haikus from his Tumblr Pony Poems (1 for each episode). Anyone with Pony poems and a brave heart can step up and read. That includes you Maud.

Ice Cream Social

Paid Event

The chance to snag some frozen treats and get to meet up with your fellow bronies! Look for tickets in the BronyCAN registration system.

Pony Trivia

A fun filled time to test your pony knowledge! Participants will receive a prize for each answer! We ask that those attending have a child under the age of 12 to enter the event.

Let's Play TSSSF!

Twilight Sparkle's Secret Shipfic Folder is a card game that is both a love letter to, and a good-natured satire of, the wonder and majesty of shipping. Come learn how to play a game about Twilight Sparkle's ridiculous obsession with writing cracky, romantic fanfic about ALL her friends (and some enemies). Come for the AppleDash, stay for the CrackleDash!

Afion's Drawing Hour

Hosted by Princess Afion

Afion's drawing lessons have been know in the local community as informative and fun! Join Afion for an hour of doodling and laughs!

Ponies on the Internet

Hosted by Feld0 & Julian K

Ever wonder what goes on in Pony Media? Got questions on what it's like? Join CloudBolt - Celestia Radio show host and member of Ponyville Live! - and Feld0 - founder of Poniverse, MLP Forums, and Pony.fm - for a panel where they'll tell stories about their experiences and answer all your questions!

Face Painting

Hosted by Dragon Paw Lady

Free face painting to anypony 12 and under, compliments of DragonPaw Lady! Be sure to check out her booth in the Vendors Hall all weekend.



**Dragon Paw Lady
Facepainting**

*Available for parties, birthdays, reunions,
festivals, markets, weddings, and more!*

www.dragonpawlady.com
www.facebook.com/DragonPawLady

Brent Hodges - A Brony Tale

Hosted by Director Brent Hodges

Come and ask the hard hitting questions to the creator of A Brony Tale! Brent will be happy to answer your questions. A Brony Tale, starring voice actress Ashleigh Ball and featuring numerous community figures, is the latest documentary film on the brony phenomenon that has been screened across the world and made its theatrical debut on July 8th!

What is a Furry and Why you are One

Hosted by Aphinity & Trapa

Learn about a unique and open fandom where the only limit is your own imagination! The only requirement is an interest in cartoon animals. Sound like something else you might be here for? Find out about an entirely new way to express your pony interests, and learn about the fun cross-over possibilities, including people you already know who are active in the Brony fandom!

Opening Ceremonies

Come welcome the attendees, staff and Apricity herself to BronyCAN 2014! It's guaranteed to be filled with excitement!

Fallout Equestria: The Wasteland Subculture

Hosted by Crusader, Cody Brown & Chilly Wing

First published in April of 2011, Fallout: Equestria became one of the largest fanfictions in the Brony Fandom, so huge that it's spawned its own subculture. Take a trip through the brony sub-fandom and explore some of the more notable side stories, comics and art of this odd cult following. The discussion is led by Salem Tales, artist, writer and Post Apocalyptic Guru and Crux, artist and Wasteland Crusader.

Jim Miller and Jayson Thiessen Power Hour

Hosted by Directors 'Big' Jim Miller & Jayson Thiessen

'Big' Jim and Jayson discussion panel that goes in to the ups and downs of the animation industry. They will go in to their highlights and major projects that developed their careers.

Friday Night Ponies: Booster Draft

Hosted by Connection Games

Each player receives 5 packs to draft with - 1 pack per player and promos in the prize pool! Also registration of the CCG tournament hosted by Connection Games at BronyCAN 2014! Be sure to enter the tournament by purchasing a seat in the BronyCAN registration system or visiting the

registration booth at the convention.

The BronyCAN 2014 Concert

Hosted by Skeleton Umbrella & BronyMike

Rock out to your heart's content, Canuck style! With additional performances by Equestrian Lord, HeyLasFas, Maestro Scherzo, Bright Side, Donn DeVore and the Cutie-marks.

Saturday, August 23, 2014

Kids Learn to Draw

This easy to follow drawing hour will have paper and drawing equipment ready for kids 12 and under to try their hand at some doodles!

Charity Auction

Hosted by Skye

This you chance to get you hands on some pretty cool items that you can't find anywhere else! I hear DaringDo was there last year to get her hands on some pretty rare artifacts! Last year there was over \$8000 donated to the BC Children's Hospital. This year, all proceeds will be going to Eversafe Ranch, a privately-funded charity run by Judy and Alan Daser in Surrey, B.C.

Kids Meet the Show Staff

Kid's have the opportunity to ask the show staff about their favorite ponies! We ask that all attending have a child 12 and under in order to enter the event.

Brony Feud

Hosted by Aphinity & David Kronstein

Watch as the Apple Family competes against the Orange Family in this Brony take on the classic TV game show Family Feud. Each family consists of 5 audience volunteers (you don't actually have to be related).

How to Vendor

Hosted by Waffles

Ever want to know all the inner secrets of being an artist or a vendor at a convention? Well look no farther, because vendors who have no idea what they're doing will show you how to be a (reasonably) successful convention vendor!

Anti-Bullying Panel

Hosted by Silver Nicktail & Tabatha Hughes

Come together for a discussion about what happens to a lot of us throughout the fandom. Some people remember it during our younger years and some still experience it to this day. We take a look at what bullying looks like, helpful resources for people struggling with a bully or the effects and tips to help end bullying.

Creative Writing in the Pony Fandom

Hosted by Tony Genovese & Blair "Horse Voice" Hedley

GaryOak and Horse Voice return to BronyCAN to discuss aspects of creative writing and their application to writing pony fanfiction.

How to Make a Likeable OC

Hosted by Cody Brown

A subjective look at how to make an original character that is both visually striking and well likable, as well as a few helpful tips for young writers and artists. Salem Tales goes over the three key parts to making an OC, Aesthetic Persona, Personality and Backstory.

Meet Apricity and Volucris

Hosted by HRH Princess Apricity & Queen Volucris

The kids get to meet the mascot of BronyCAN, Princess Apricity! Also meet her sworn enemy Queen Volucris. We ask that all attending have a child under the age of 12 to attend the event.

Esseh Plays Schubert

Hosted by Peter Solovyev

Dive in the world of wonderful classical music, composed by Franz Peter Schubert. Performed by Esseh the Dragon.

Legends of Equestria

Hosted by Blue Ink, Liska & Cerebrate

Now with more than 85,000 players and growing, Legends of Equestria is an in-development MMORPG inspired by the show. The game has multiple cities, group combat, hundreds of NPCs and quests, and over 50 developers. This year, Legends of Equestria staff will be hosting a panel displaying their progress, as well as offering insight into how the game is made. They will also be showcasing new content in the gaming room over the convention week-end, so be sure to stop by!

To Love and Tolerate

Hosted by Julian "Cream Soda" Waterman

An overview of My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic. Watch in awe as I cover the show's history, culture, and Brony-created content, which continues to impress and inspire.

What Would Ponies Do?

Hosted by Heather Burgess

What Would Ponies Do? Join Pinkie Pie, Rarity and Spike as they answer the questions of others in this advice panel. Attendees can submit questions about friendship or everyday problems and we will do our best to answer them in character.

Pony Art for Beginners

Hosted by Jordan Sear

This short panel will serve to help beginning artists with some tips and tricks to improve, as well as some helpful resources.

DHX

Featuring: Jim Miller, Jayson Thiessen, Daniel Ingram, Steffan Andrews, Stephanie Mahoney, Christopher Leinonen & Rebecca Dart

We rounded up as many DHX staffers as we could, and you know what? A certain orange pony would be proud at our herding skills 'cause ya got's a com'n see this to believe it! Seven of the talents behind the magic have come down to Richmond BC to attend this years BronyCAN! They will go in to the production and development of our favorite show. I would grab a seat early if I were you. This one is going to fill up fast!

Horse Game

Hosted by Ben Cracknell

Horse Game is a fan game in development by a dedicated group of MLP fans. Using fresh, original characters and story, we hope to bring a game with a full single-player adventure and a multiplayer arena mode to the community. During our panel we will showcase gameplay, detail the development process which brought us here, and explain our goals for where this project will lead.

Friendship is Movie Magic

Hosted by VAs Sam Vincent, Richard Cox & Andrew Francis

Last night in suburbia is a film in pre-production that is produced by Sam Vincent, written and directed by Richard Cox and co-produced by Andrew Francis. Ashliegh Ball produces and sings the sound track. Sam, Richard and Andrew will be giving us the lowdown on their newest project and answering some questions along the way. The film is about a close group of friends who are separating after summer holidays and are spending their last night together at a house party (Pinkie is jealous already). Join us as we learn about their collaborative effort that will be filming this September!

Flipping Through the Comic

Hosted by Georgia Ball, Amy Mebberson

Flip through the page of the MLP comic series with Georgia and Amy as your guide. They will give an inside look in to the gripping tales of the Mane Six!

Hot Pepper Reviews

Hosted by Crusader

Ever wondered what it would be like to see if someone ate a hot pepper and tried to review their favourite episode of MLP? Well wonder no more! Watch as three friends eat an extremely hot pepper and (try) to review their favourite MLP episode!

Pinkie Pie's Talk Show

Hosted by Bloo

Tune in to Pinkie Pie's Talk Show for the latest and greatest in pony news! This week's show features special guests Princess Apricity and Queen Volucris! Join Pinkie Pie for a fun filled hour of fourth wall breaking, who's hot to trot, who's not, and plot development!

Journey of the Spark

Hosted by Sean Hrause

Journey of the Spark (JotS) is an MLP based full length movie currently being produced and directed by Eric Rid-enour. I work alongside him as a storyboarder & the shows only animatic producer.

VIP Dinner

Paid Event

Come and dine with the cast and crew! You might even spot Apricity there! Look for ticket sales in the BronyCAN registration system or at the registration desk at the convention.

What in Equestria am I Reading?

Hosted by Stu Clark

It's just as bad as you think it is. Join fanfiction reader/writer/enthusiast CleverTwist as he struggles through some of the worst the "creative" side of fandom has to offer. All the while doing his best MictheMicrophone impression. So muster all of your inner strength, grab a few snacks and some friends, and prepare to have your sanity questioned at a live dramatic reading of the finest in MLP FanFiction awkwardness.

The My Little Pony Collectible Card Game Tournament Sponsored by Connection Games

Hosted by Connection Games

Come and check out the Swiss Rounds + Top 8 Quarterfinals + Semifinals for the BronyCAN CCG tournament! The main tournament that will lead in to the finals on Sunday!

Bronies.tv Webseries

Hosted by Derek Green & Ryan Pears

"Bronies" is a locally filmed webseries written by Ryan and produced by Derek. The first film premiered at BronyCAN 2013 and has been gaining many fans online ever since. We are excited to have just filmed three new episodes and cannot wait to show them to the fans. Come and watch the new episodes and meet the cast and creators of "Bronies".

Dance

Step in time to the beat in our second round of musical mayhem! Featuring artists FenPony, NekoWolf, ScratchAttack, GeDM, and our friend with the lasers, Felyx!

Sunday, August 24, 2014

Cartoons and Cereal

Hosted by Aphinity & Tabatha Hughes

Come with us down a trip through memory lane as we serve up some awesome fan made cartoons while you chow down on some breakfast favorites! Cereal is on a first come, first served basis, and is free!

Kid's Meet with the VA's

Hosted by TBD

Give your little ones a chance to meet the talented people find their favorite ponies! We ask that all attending have a child 12 and under in order to enter the event.

Cosplay Contest

Hosted by Bloo

Join Host Bloo from Everfree Northwest as she rolls out the (metaphorical) red carpet to all of the fantastic costumes and cosplayers of BronyCAN 2014! Show off your gorgeous style and pizzazz for the panel of judges and you could win some fabulous prizes. The judges will score based on three categories, construction, personality, and pose. There will be four categories to win. Cutest, Silliest, Most Elegant, and Best in Show. Best of luck to everyone!

Cosplay Photo Shoot

Hosted by Bloo

Cosplayers, come show off your beautiful costumes! Photographers, come take pictures! If you're too shy to ask for a cosplayer's picture in the hall, this is a lovely time and place to fill all your cosplay picture taking needs! If you're not sure about posing, who, or what to take pictures of, Bloo will be organizing group shots of characters, scenes, etc.

Someone's Diminutive Equine

Hosted by Silver Nicktail

The host of last year's riotous "Beating a Dead Pony" panel returns to continue the mayhem. Numerous franchises have been... "inspired" by our favourite pony folk. But are they any good? Join Silver, a man who watches far too many cartoons to be healthy, as he takes another irreverent look at familiar feeling fodder. Which are worth your time, and which get the sledgehammer?

Nerf War!

Hosted by Crusader and Cody

BronyCAN wants YOU in the Nerf war against the changelings! See the BronyCAN website under Events to learn more about what you can do in the nerf war against the changelings!

The Backstage Pass with the Musicians

Hosted by Skeleton Umbrella

They've got the music in them, that's for sure. Get to know our performers for this year, and maybe learn a few tips to find the music in you!

Drawing Equines and the Art of Putting Hats on Ponies

Hosted by artists Nicole Gauss, Kora Kosicka and Rebecca Dart

Come and learn how a brief description in a script becomes a character that you all know and love with anima-

tion veterans Nicole Gauss, Kora Kosicka, and Rebecca Dart, who collectively represent all five seasons of character design in MLP:FiM!

Dear Princess Celestia

Featuring VA Nicole Oliver

As the voice behind the Princess of the Sun, Nicole will be around to answer questions about her career, her favorite things, and amazing stories from her past.

Acoustic Outdoor Concert

Hosted by Skeleton Umbrella

Relax to the calming tones emanating from under the gazebo in the Executive's courtyard.

Cosplay Contest Awards

Hosted by Bloo

The best of the best have been chosen! Our winners return for an encore as they receive their prizes and are awarded for their contributions!

Poetry Rocks!

Hosted by Benjamin Luk

Aspiring poets can bring their rock poetry à la Maud Pie to be judged by our rock poetry judges! Read them in front of your fellow Maud fans and win prizes! Poems must be at least five lines long and no longer than thirty lines. Sounds hard, right? Like a rock.

The My Little Pony Collectible Card Game Tournament Sponsored by Connection Games - Finals

Come watch the last two competitors duke it out on the main stage! Can someone say SHOWDOWN?! This promises to be the mostly action filled hour of the whole convention! Did I mention the grand prize is a hand made trophy?

Feedback Panel

If you have a concern, complaint or just want to give a royal thumbs up to all of us at BronyCAN, this is the panel to attend.

Closing Ceremonies

Our final farewell to the attendees, staff and volunteers. Don't miss out on our heart felt goodbye!

TAKING SIDES

The Changeling Fault-Line - Written by Jack

The TV flashed on and the remote clicked to the news channel. The reporter spoke as the camera panned over a black cloud moving quickly over the sky. The reporter made it clear however, that this was not a cloud.

“Park rangers have spotted changelings flying over British Columbia towards an unknown destination. Their direction indicates that they are most likely heading towards highly populated centres and cities. Citizens are advised to stay in their homes until the problem has been resolved.” The video changed from the shaky, blurry camera from a random citizen to the reporter. He wore a suit and tie, his black mane cut short and professional. “I have with me here today, Professor Trillium, to discuss what the potential consequences are that could result from such a problem. Professor?”

The camera turned to a middle-aged mare with a white mane and a purple coat. “Thank you, Anchor,” she said. “The changeling fault-line is one that has made itself apparent in these past few days, but the concept itself is not new. There have been many fault-lines in the past, and still continue today. They are topics of controversy, where at least two sides push against, pull apart from, or shear and grind against one another until one side breaks, the area is filled, or they both release tension that can cause great and sudden change; much like the tectonic plates in geology where the term originated. In this case, it is the changelings and their sympathizers against everyone else. To understand each side, it is important to understand the changelings themselves. They are of an Arctic breed, and thus-” The TV channel changed to the figures of equines moving swiftly and smoothly across a white surface: the hockey game.

“Hey! I was watching that!” North Star exclaimed. She glared at her roommate, a pegasus, who planted a cider on the table and plopped down a bowl of ketchup flavoured chips on her lap as she stared intently at the screen.

“True North!” She demanded at least her attention, but True North did not budge. It wasn’t that she didn’t want to, or that she outright ignored North Star, but it was the same as it was every time the Leafs were playing. It took some time but North Star had realized True North’s habits, and she found it futile to argue with her roommate, who actually turned out to be the best roommate she’d ever had. Almost every day when True North would get home from work, she’d kick off her work boots and settle down on the couch. North Star had made efforts to work around her roommate’s schedule, and do what she wanted to while True North was at work. It was difficult, and she soon found herself searching for a new roommate when one of her exes showed up one day. He came wanting to get back together, but she refused and he rambled

on about a number of times she wronged him, and how she still has some of his things. True North came, interrupted the fight, and chased the stallion out of their home. Their friendship grew after that, and both had accepted some of the other’s habits, sometimes compromising their own.

This was one such habit. True North would get to watch every Toronto Maple Leafs game she wanted. She would be glued to the screen, and nothing would take her attention away from it except the commercial breaks. But North Star felt that this breaking news story was important, and something which they both ought to listen.

True North picked up the bottle to take a sip but her brow furrowed as she found something wrong with it. Not a single drop was leaving the bottle. She tapped the glass and tried again to no avail. The third time, she tilted the bottle and peered inside and saw a small glow of red disappear before the contents of the bottle started rushing out again.

“Ack! Blegh!” She spat. “North!? What’s the big idea?”

The unicorn smirked and replied, “I know it’s the Leafs game, but can’t you wait at least ten minutes and just let me finish watching the news?” She telekinetically grabbed the remote control from True North, who was busy mopping her face with a paper towel.

“This was never a problem for you before, why’s it such a big deal today? It’s all just bad news on there anyway.”

North Star floated more paper towels to her roommate from the counter in the kitchen close by. “Well, this news is really important.”

She clicked the remote and the TV blared “— and this time however, it was unexpected and we were caught unprepared. Princess Apricity and her allies are already on the way to intercept them, but it is unknown whether or not they will get there in time,” the reporter said.

“Wait,” True North said, “what’s going on? Where’s it happening?”

“It may take them a while to mobilize, but British Columbia could be in serious danger,” The TV answered.

“Oh, well, we’re gonna have to do something then.”

It was North Star’s turn to be surprised, “Wait what?”

“You and me, and some of the others from work, maybe the other ponies down by the cafe. We’re gonna go to BC and tell those changelings to back off, and I’ve got two friends who know just how to talk to them” she bumped her hooves together. Whatever they want, it’s not happening. Not

in my backyard.”

“Okay, I think you need to slow down.” North Star recalled her friend’s passion and anger. It was the same kind she displayed when one of the things she cared about was in trouble. But this was the first time North Star had seen her so passionate about Canada as a whole, except when it came to hockey. Granted, they had not experienced a situation like this in their lifetime.

North Star continued, “That’s why I wanted to see this news report; Professor Trillium is famous for showing the other side of the argument.

On cue, the Professor continued, “These changelings, we don’t actually know much about what’s really going on. It’s all happened so suddenly. Perhaps they feel left out, or wronged in some way? It wouldn’t be the first time.”

“This?” True North burst out, “This is what you wanted to hear? I can’t believe it, we’re having a bug out-break and you’re siding with them?”

“I didn’t say that, I just wanted to make sure we know why they’re doing this now of all times, I think we should know all the facts before we jump to conclusions.”

“They are attacking us without warning, they aren’t Canadian in any way, shape, or form. Just because they can change their form, doesn’t mean they can become Canadian like that. They don’t belong here.”

“Well then, how does someone become Canadian, huh? The way you act, I sure don’t feel Canadian, and I was born right here in Ontario. Those changelings might have even been born here too. Maybe we just feel... left out.”

“What are you talking about? You’re more Canadian than our neighbours. That horse that lives next door, he doesn’t even like hockey, or poutine, or maple syrup. He talks a lot about his old country, the sand dunes and rocks and desert. Jeez, I don’t even think he’s been outside the city. If he had, he’d stop complaining.”

North Star frowned, gulped, and sighed, “True, I don’t like hockey.”

True North’s jaw dropped, “You what?”

“I don’t like hockey, maple syrup is too sweet, but poutines are okay. I like poutines.”

“How could you not like hockey? Everyone who’s Canadian likes hockey. Did you come from somewhere else or something? Did your parents sneak you up from down south?”

“No! I just don’t like it. I don’t really know why. You never really pay attention to me when a game’s on, and I’m usually just reading. I can easily ignore any background noise and focus on a book or magazine. Not everyone likes it, True. I can act like I like it, and claim a team as my favourite, but I don’t know all that much about them. Sure, if it’s Team Canada against everyone else, that’s a little different, we’re all

in it together. I can appreciate a win for our side and be proud, but that’s it. That’s the extent of my interest in hockey, unless it has something to do with history.”

North Star was silent for a moment, she hadn’t realized she stood up, confronting both her friend and the feelings she’s had to hide. “I like other Canadian sports though. But they often get overshadowed by hockey, and that bothers me a little.”

“So what, like, lacrosse? That’s a pretty cool sport too, it’s like hockey but not on ice.”

“No, not lacrosse,” She was getting increasingly annoyed.

“Basketball then? I know it’s not very popular around here but a Canadian guy came up with it, so it’s not all bad.”

“No!” She rolled her eyes. “Look, you’ll never guess it, it’s not even in the Olympics. I like ice canoeing.”

“What the hay’s ice canoeing? How do you canoe on ice?”

“See? That’s the kind of response I’m afraid of. It’s a sport that’s born in the same way hockey was, but it doesn’t get any recognition except from a small minority. It’s not fair. Some things I just don’t like, and the things I do like face controversy. Just so you know, ice canoeing is when you and your teammates go out onto the ice of a lake or something, and you push off from the starting point, pushing your canoe until you reach the water, and then you get in and start paddling. You go like that until you reach the finish line. It seems like it’d be so popular around here, because it seems like it’d be such a Canadian sport, the cold, the heritage associated with it, but it’s not. Not as much at least. There are so many other sports that would fit us so well, but they get no recognition. Hockey’s so big and casts such a huge shadow. I have to like hockey or else I’m shunned. That’s not what Canada’s about, at least, that’s not what Canada should be about.”

True North was stunned. She had never heard anything like this before from any of her friends.

“I’m going out to Tim’s,” North Star said and left without another word, leaving True North in the dark of the apartment, the TV was drowned out by their argument and silenced by True North’s thoughts and comprehension of what just happened.

“She didn’t even ask me if I wanted something from Tim’s...” she said to herself, fully grasping the seriousness of the situation.

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“Did you see that shot in overtime?” Pothole ranted “I tell ya, it was in! The ref called it wrong!” The others laughed.

“Pothole, you always think the puck was in, at least whenever it’s the Leafs’ who shot it.” They laughed more even as Pothole took a bite out of his sandwich.

"You agree with me, don't cha True?" he asked with a mouthful of food.

"Huh? What?" True North had a hard time paying attention, even during her work she seemed to be in a daze, her mind wandering. The foreman was getting annoyed with having to remind her to get back to work, "There's only two seasons in Toronto, winter and construction," he would say, "We don't have time for dillydallying!"

She thought at least now she'd be allowed to clear her thoughts on her lunch break, but her co-workers wouldn't have it. It was, after all, the day after the Leafs game. Every lunch they'd talk, but True North was still troubled by what happened the evening prior.

"You saw that slap shot, right? Right across the rink! It was a gamble, but if the ref had better eyes, he would've seen it too."

"I wouldn't know," she replied. "I didn't see the game last night."

All of her co-workers leaned forward over one another to get a better look at her, they couldn't believe what they were hearing.

"You alright?" Sawdust asked as he felt her forehead.

"I'm not sick!" she said as she slapped his hoof away. "North Star wanted to watch the news last night and I got distracted. Did you know there's changelings over in BC?"

"I'd heard about that," Mixer answered, "They're led by some white changeling that calls herself Queen Volucris."

"Eh, I don't think it's that big a deal," Pothole replied. "There's always something going on; SARS back in the day, accidents every now and then, getting everypony worked up over nothing."

"Besides, it's not like its right here in Ontario," Sawdust said.

It was True North's turn to sit in disbelief at what she was hearing, "Are you serious? Sure, it gets competitive sometimes between us, but when stuff happens we're all supposed to help each other out! Don't you remember the Halifax Explosion?"

"Nope," Pothole and Sawdust said in unison.

"I'm surprised you know about that," Mixer admitted, "it was some time ago, and not something all that important to teach in school. Only reason I know about that is cause I'm from Nova Scotia."

"Yeah well, my roommate works at the ROM, she's a history buff. She talks a lot about these things and sometimes I listen. I was thinking about going out West, to help out, or something. I was hoping you guys would come with, North Star turned me down."

"I think the RCMP can handle it," Sawdust replied. "If not, then we've got other ponies who can."

"I know you're a tough cookie True, but you don't need to," Pothole added. "The government can handle it, they pay people to do stuff like this. We pay them to do that, you know, taxes and such. But yeah, I'm not going anywhere, I've got a job to do."

"Mixer?" True North hoped she would not be alone, Mixer was a reasonable pony, kept up with the news on occasion, voted and everything. Even she admits to having forgotten once or twice to vote, but he never missed the date.

"I would True, really. But they've got a point. There are people who are better at that kind of thing than us, trained to do it. We might just get in their way. I've also got a family at home to take care of. Going out West for Apricity-knows-how-long, to someplace dangerous, leaving my job and family? I'm sorry, it just doesn't make sense for a pony like me."

She was shocked, nopony would come forward. All these ponies she had known since she started working there she thought she knew. She did know them, but didn't know that they'd betray her and their country like that. No, not betray; Mixer was a good pony, and he was pretty convincing. She didn't like it, but he was probably right. The others would be able to handle it. She'd just keep working and watching the news to keep herself informed, it was the least she could do, it seemed like the least she, and anypony else, would do.

Mixer noticed her stare at her food and pick at it, "If you do decide to head out West, I'll cover for you, we all will, eh guys?"

They grunted in response, a reluctant yes. True North only nodded solemnly.

She was quiet before lunch, and she was quiet for the rest of the day. True North had nothing to say, if she did, she felt like she'd be laughed at or ignored. Both her and her silly, brash ideas.

She came home earlier than normal, not bothering to stop by the cafe at all. She saw her foreign neighbour Sadiq, with two other of his Saddle Arabian friends at the door of his apartment, speaking in a language she didn't understand. They smelled of strange but not unpleasant food. She quickly hid around the corner of the hallway. True North often found Sadiq and his friends around whenever she came home early. She knew that they went off to other parts of town more populated with people of similar culture and tastes. They often did that, kept together in their groups, their enclaves. She was unnerved by this, by not knowing what they said or did most of the time, it didn't help that she never asked.

As she was watching them, his friends turned to walk down the hall. She jumped back using her wings to keep her from making a sound and give the impression she was spying on her neighbour. True North tried walking casually again, nodding to the two as they passed each other. She walked towards her door, watching the corner of her eye to see if she would have to acknowledge the tall and slender equine's presence.

As she did, he scoffed as he uttered a single, incomprehensible word, almost spitting as he said it.

“Excuse me?” True North emphasized, her sadness from the past two days welling up into anger.

“Hmm?” He looked up over at True North, a look of disgust quickly faded into a polite reply, “Oh, hi. I did not see you there.” His eyes went down to the object in his hooves, and True North’s eyes followed. “Oh!” He realized, “My apologies, I was simply reading the headline.”

He lifted up the paper to show her, and it read “Bugs Attack BC!” True North didn’t know much about Sadiq, but she expected him to be apathetic about what was going on in the distant parts of Canada. From what North Star told her, he was usually only with his other Saddle Arabian friends, doing other things. She stood there with her mouth agape while he looked back at the headline, his eyes shifted and moved as he started reading the first few sentences of the article.

“You... care?” She asked.

He looked back at her, taken aback by her question, “Of course. Why wouldn’t I?”

“You don’t seem like you would, not even my friends seemed to care, and this is their home. They were born here and grew up here...”

“Unlike me?”

“Sorry.” She looked to the floor, avoiding his gaze. She didn’t want to be mean or rude, especially when she was face to face with him.

“I may not have been born here, but it is my home now. I have defended my home in the past, and would do it again.”

True North’s eyes lit up.

“Your friends are probably used to problems coming and going. They have taken many things for granted. When I see the Falls, all that water gushing down and flowing, free for any and all, it makes me sad to think my people used to fight over things like that. The greenness of this country, is something I am not used to. It has me worried, the lack of concern people like your friends have. This is such a vast land, with so much, I guess I can see how easy it is to take it for granted. We often quarreled in different between different towns and villages, in Saddle Arabia. But when a problem arose, we knew we had to stop it from spreading, and in order to do that, we’d have to work together.

True North paused, and thought about that for a moment. When she finally spoke she asked, “Do you... want to come over? I’m not all that good at cooking, but North Star is, I’m sure she’d enjoy having you over.”

“No pony has ever asked me that before, your friend was kind and always seemed to intend to. She accepted my own invitations, but never did she invite me over to her home.”

“That was probably my fault,” she admitted. “I’m not too fond of unexpected visitors. So, what do ya say?”

North Star heard laughing coming from her apartment. She placed her ear up against the door, wondering if her roommate had brought her co-workers over. She wasn’t sure any hockey game was on tonight, let alone a Leafs game. She heard a voice she was familiar with but didn’t recognize as one she associated with her friend. She decided to simply open the door and find out.

She found True North sitting on a chair she had taken out of their dining room, cider in hoof, looking across at a tan, slender, tall stallion sitting across the couch from her.

True North hadn’t noticed North Star there until she suspiciously drawled, “Heeeeey...”

“Mmm!” True North responded, mouth full of cider. She gulped it down and continued with real words, “Hey North! You know Sadiq, right?”

North Star squinted, still suspicious of her intentions, “Yeaah... I didn’t know you did too though...” she set her saddlebags and keys on the counter.

“He was just telling me about living in Saddle Arabia.”

North Star pointed out the obvious, “Yeah, big change going from somewhere so hot to somewhere so cold, at least for half the year or so.”

“Well, not just that.”

“Oh?” North Star was getting curious, mostly at True North’s interest.

“Yeah, he told me about life in general, growing up. How sometimes they’d get into arguments with other villages over stuff. In the part of Saddle Arabia he lived, they were stuck around a couple of mountains, deserts and an ocean, so there weren’t many places to go and-” she paused, looking back, and remembering her guest, “you know what, he can explain it better.”

Sadiq smiled as they sat down again, North Star sitting on the other side of the couch while True North went back to her chair.

As she sat down, North Star began to stare blankly into the space behind Sadiq. He looked behind, as did True North.

“You okay, North?” She asked.

“Yeah,” she replied, “I just got the weirdest feeling of déjà vu, like this has happened before, but only differently, it’s hard to explain.”

“Your horn’s probably on the fritz, you’ve been working too hard. Don’t learn from history and doomed to repeat it and all that, you know that better than anyone I guess.” True North passed her cider over to North Star, who promptly took

a gulp and relaxed her muscles, she felt a satisfying shiver throughout her body.

"I'm sorry, Sadiq, please continue," she said.

"Well, we were all stuck there with each other really, it was difficult to go a single day without bickering among one another. Tensions were high, and there were a few incidents every now and then, I was never really involved though, all I knew was that I didn't like them. Then one day, the parasprites came. I don't think you have them here, it might be too cold. If that's true, then you are fortunate. We were not sure where they came from, perhaps from another boat that sailed in to the harbour village by the ocean. They spread like wildfire. At least with a wildfire though, the plants can grow back, the nutrients are still there. Those monsters simply came and ate all our food, and only produced more of themselves. We had to try and chase them out while hiding as much of our food as possible. It worked for a time, but then one of them got into one of our hidden stockpiles, and then it became even worse."

Sadiq looked grim, "My younger brother was getting sick from the lack of nutrition, I was worried but I was also busy trying to get the parasprites away, chase them out into the desert. That's what most of us had to do at the time. But then some horses from the other villages near the mountains came by. I thought they were going to take advantage of our situation, but they didn't. Instead they helped us chase the parasprites away. Then, some of those from the ocean villages came by as well, with food and medicine. It was not much but it was enough."

He lightened up, "My brother was well. I asked them why they had helped us, and they said that it was everyone's problem, and it was everyone's duty to deal with it. It was a problem that would not be solved unless we all worked together. If our area fell, then the other homes would follow. We had come to know one another and realize we all had friends and families we cared about, we valued the same things, just in different ways. We celebrated those differences. My brother and I moved here a couple of years ago. It was difficult at first, but we adjusted, with the help of the other Saddle Arabians here. I visit him in a more distant part of the city from time to time."

He added, "I do not know what these changelings are or what they want. But it reminds me of that time, I do not want to see what happened to my old home happen to my new home as well."

They were quiet for a moment, then North Star spoke, "He's right." They turned to look at her. "I'm sorry True, we can't fight each other when we have bigger problems. Whatever the changelings are up to, it's come as a sneak attack. We can't really know what they want if they don't say anything, and if they don't say anything then it might not be something they want to tell." She sighed.

"No, you were right too, North." She stood up from

her chair. "I was wrong about Sadiq. I didn't think he belonged here, that he wasn't Canadian. He doesn't like hockey, or even ice canoeing. He doesn't cafebeque or eat poutine, he spends most of his time hanging out with other horses, things that I've never even heard of."

Sadiq raised an eyebrow and North Star said "I hope you're going somewhere with this."

"I am. But he wants to help. He wants it to keep its integrity. What's more Canadian than that? And if I can give him a chance, and realize he belongs here, shouldn't we do the same for them?"

"Well, whatever your decision, I am here to help." Sadiq said.

North Star's smile grew and she beamed with pride, "I'll grab the tickets!"

Dear Princess Apricity,

I hope this letter gets to you soon. I know I have never written to you before really, I never really needed to. But I have learned that being accepting of one another's differences, as long as they aren't hurtful, is essentially what harmony is about. Acceptance and tolerance. Everyone has a place, we can all work together doing what each of us does best, to achieve our goals and do what's good for everyone. And isn't that kind of what Canada is about too? A lot of different cultures and races, all mixed in the same land, living together peacefully and embracing each other's differences? We all have to share this place we're living in. Sure, we can bicker and fight every now and then, but when we need to, we can band together in solidarity, in harmony. It's a bit like hockey, when it comes to the NHL, it's every team for themselves. But when the Olympics come around, that doesn't matter anymore. We're all Canadians and we all work together to get the gold and support the same team. I think even those people who don't like hockey can still feel the pride of having a winning team. I know you're a Princess: you're smart, and you wouldn't do something unless you thought it was necessary. But I just hope you're wrong, that they don't really mean harm, or if they do, that there might be another way. If not, know then that you can still count on us to help. Change can be difficult, especially when it happens so fast. It isn't always good, but should be acknowledged and given a chance, both things that were, things that are, and things that will be. They should all have a voice, one that which we all not just hear, but listen to as well.

Sincerely

North Star, True North, and Sadiq.

BRONYCAN 2014 STAFF

Everyone who helped put this shindig together, and then some.

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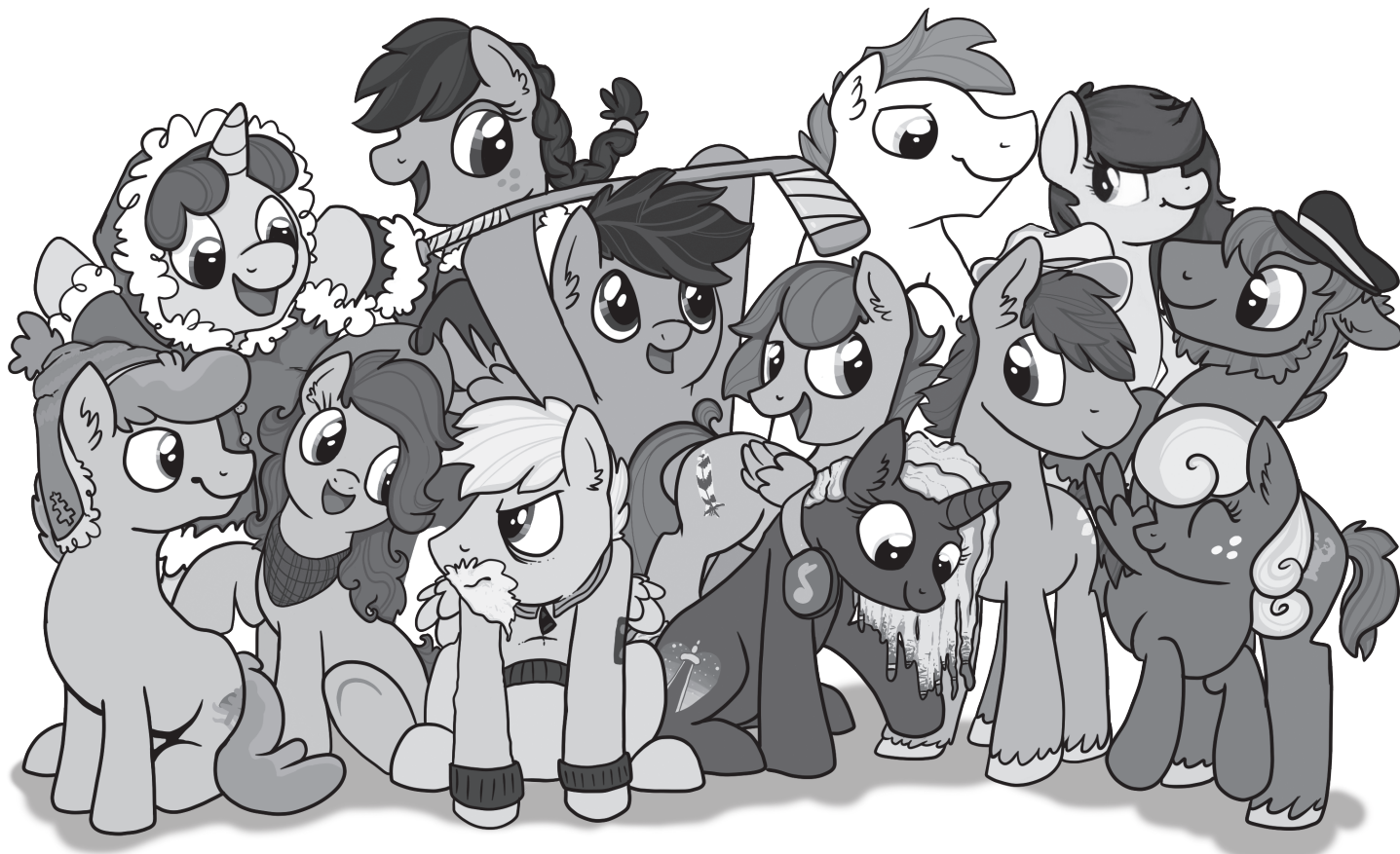
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And da big cheese, Jay Weiland



From left to right: Little Island, Arctic Snow, Wild Rose, River, Frostbite, Slapshot, Snow Feather, Night Life, Nanuk, Angler, Morning Glade, Whitecap, Captain Claw

Art by Rabbitasaur

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 Whoever invented nachos
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NOTES

Get some autographs, draw funny pictures, and make some memories!

Hey, you. Yes you, in the silly costume. Over here!

Now listen, and listen well, my subject. I have no care for what that purple alicorn thinks; magically writing in a thousand books at once is hard, so pay attention. I believe our changeling Friends are about to put in an appearance at BronyCAN. That idiot rat and his companions lost track of the arctic changelings last week, and I don't think they've gone for poutine. (At least not anywhere I supply!)

I figured this might happen, so being the cleverer of Canada's two princesses, I naturally took precautions. I've hidden the Elements of Canada within the convention space, to give us a way to defend against the invaders. Unfortunately, some ignoble creature may have written their locations on an edible surface... That's irrelevant. The point is that I need you to find them, and quickly!

I've left secret instructions with a member of the BronyCAN staff to brief my subjects on how to locate and retrieve the Elements of Canada. It won't be easy, but it must be done to drive back that two-bit imposter and her insidious insects.

Look inside your pocket programs to find when and where to meet my messenger. Follow their instructions, do your best to find the Elements, and let us remove the changeling threat from my province permanently.

Her Eternal Gravyness,

HRH Princess Poutine of Canada





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